

# Warringah Freeway Upgrade

## Falcon Street southbound bus on ramp

Community notification | June 2023

MW050S



We are simplifying the Warringah Freeway, making it safer and easier to use, and more efficient and reliable for the benefit of all customers, including public transport users.

## Upcoming work

From June 2023, we will start building the new southbound dedicated bus on ramp from Falcon Street, Neutral Bay to the Sydney CBD. This work is expected to take around 18 months to complete.

The future dedicated bus on ramp will be a separated, raised bridge structure, replacing the existing on ramp that currently serves both buses and general traffic. Unlike the existing on ramp, which has a dedicated bus lane with a raised median kerb separating it from general traffic, the new on-ramp will be used exclusively as a bus lane.

The new bus on ramp will land on the easternmost side of the freeway, eliminating conflicts with merging general traffic and improving overall safety by removing the need for buses to weave across lanes when travelling toward the CBD.

To safely enable this work, including partial demolition of the existing Falcon Street bridge, freeway widening and bus on ramp construction, we will be establishing temporary work areas on Falcon Street and on the eastern side of the Warringah Freeway, south of Falcon Street.



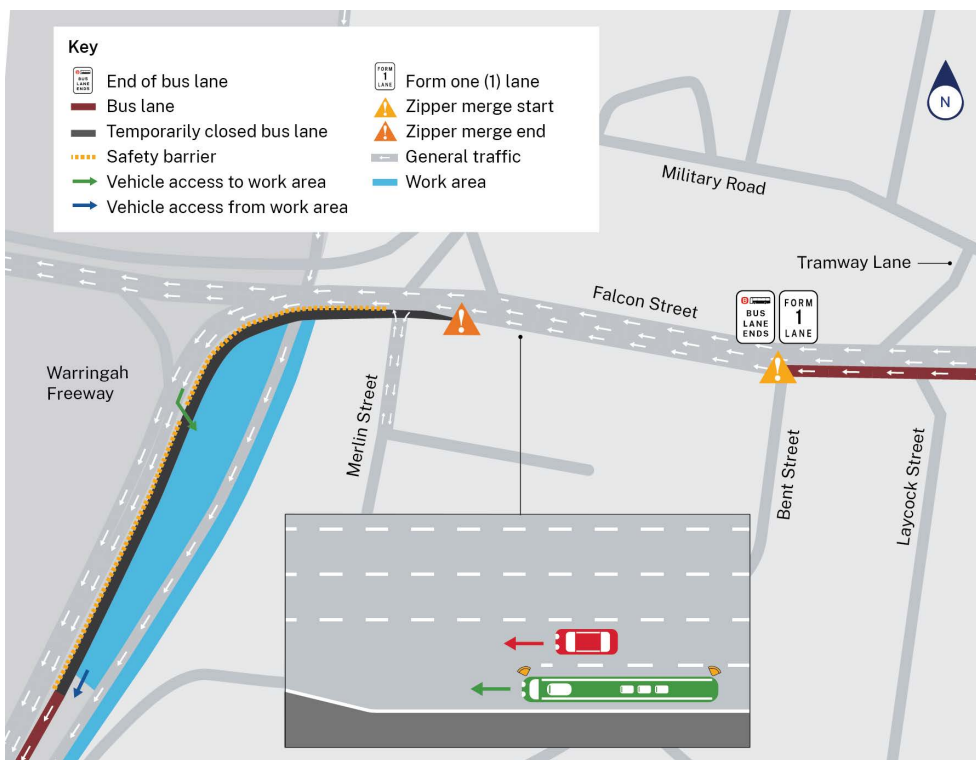
Artist's impression of the future Falcon Street southbound bus on ramp, south-east view of the Warringah Freeway and Falcon Street bridge

## What we are doing

When we begin building the Falcon Street southbound bus on ramp, you will see us:

- removing trees and vegetation on the eastern side of the freeway south of Falcon Street
- installing temporary safety barriers, guard rails, scaffolding and safety screens
- demolishing a section of the south-east corner of the existing Falcon Street bridge
- demolishing and reinstalling concrete walls
- carrying out earthworks, including excavating, ground levelling, and compacting the work area
- carrying out piling work for the ramp piers
- concreting and steel work
- installing bridge deck panels.

## Where we are working



Falcon Street westbound zipper merge and southbound bus on ramp traffic changes

## Changed traffic conditions

**From 10pm Friday 16 June 2023**, temporary traffic changes will be in place to allow temporary work areas to be established. The changes are expected to be in place for around 18 months. These changes will include:

- We will be removing the kerbside bus lane along Falcon Street westbound between Merlin Street and the freeway to establish a work area. This will reduce the number of westbound lanes on Falcon Street in this area by one lane.
- The removal of the bus lane will also extend along the southbound on ramp, reducing traffic capacity here to two lanes.
- The bus lane removal means buses will travel in general traffic lanes. To do this, we will be introducing an equal merge point, known as a zipper merge, near Merlin Street.

## How to use a zipper merge

1. Follow road signs and markings: Look out for the "Form 1 Lane" sign that indicates the merge point ahead
2. Buses will stay in the bus lane until the zipper merge point. If a bus is ahead of your vehicle at the zipper merge, you must give way to the vehicle ahead
3. When approaching the zipper merge point, drivers in each lane should alternately merge, like the teeth of a zipper. Please be patient and courteous to other drivers.

**For more information** on zipper merges, please scan the QR code to watch the Transport for NSW video on merging and changing lanes.



## Pedestrian and cyclist access

From 10pm Friday 16 June 2023, the footpath on the southern side of Falcon Street bridge between Merlin Street and St Leonards Park will be temporarily closed for around 18 months while we build the Falcon Street bus on ramp.

Pedestrians and cyclists are advised to use the Falcon Street shared user bridge between Merlin Street and Falcon Street. The footpath on the northern side of Falcon Street bridge will also remain open. Pedestrian and cyclist access between Neutral Bay and North Sydney is also available via Merlin Street, Alfred Street North and Ridge Street shared user bridge.

Safety fencing, barriers and traffic control will be in place around the work area. Please slow down and use extra caution when traveling through the area and follow any cyclist dismount signage in place.



Falcon Street temporary footpath closure and detour map

## When we will be working

Most of our work will take place during the day from **7am to 6pm Monday to Friday and from 8am to 6pm on Saturdays**. For the safety of the public and our workers, and to minimise traffic impacts, we will carry out some work at night. We will notify local residents ahead of any night work. For the latest work updates, please visit the Warringah Freeway Upgrade portal, which can be found online at [nswroads.work/wfuportal](https://nswroads.work/wfuportal).

## Work area access

To minimise impacts on residents and motorists, all heavy vehicle routes will use the most direct connections into the work area. Access to the work area will be via the Falcon Street southbound on ramp. Vehicles will exit the work area on to the freeway southbound lanes.

## Reducing the impacts on you

Our work activities will require the use of machinery that generates noise, light spill and vibration. We will be using scanning equipment, excavators, piling rigs, mobile cranes, concrete saws, powered hand tools, jackhammers, compaction equipment, chain saws, mulchers, core drills, lighting towers, vacuum trucks, traffic controls and light and heavy vehicles.

To minimise impacts on you we will:

- ensure all heavy vehicles use the most direct connections to and from the freeway
- fit equipment with devices to minimise noise, particularly non-tonal reversing beepers on vehicles
- turn off machinery when not in use
- park work vehicles inside temporary construction sites, where possible, to reduce impacts to local parking.

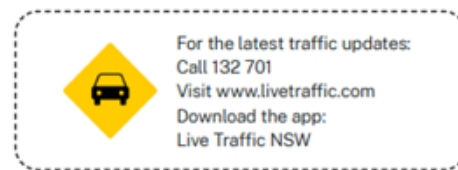
## For more information

Scan the QR code or visit [nswroads.work/wfuportal](https://nswroads.work/wfuportal) to see our Falcon Street southbound bus on ramp FAQs.



## Register for regular updates

Stay in touch and keep up to date with all the activity in your area as we continue to upgrade the Warringah Freeway. Contact us via the details below to subscribe to email updates today.



For more information on how we manage and mitigate noise, please refer to our 'Managing Construction Noise fact sheet', available online at [nswroads.work/wfuportal](https://nswroads.work/wfuportal) or scan the QR code.



To find out more about piling, please refer to our 'Piling work fact sheet', available online by visiting [nswroads.work/wfuportal](https://nswroads.work/wfuportal) or by scanning the QR code.



## Stay in touch with us



1800 931 189



[whtbl@transport.nsw.gov.au](mailto:whtbl@transport.nsw.gov.au)



[nswroads.work/wfuportal](https://nswroads.work/wfuportal)



**Customer feedback**  
Transport for NSW, Locked Bag  
928 North Sydney NSW 2059



## Making a complaint about our work

To make an inquiry or a complaint about the project, you can call our community information line, which is available 24 hours a day and is attended during the project operation hours. Inquiries and complaints may also be received by the project email and by post.



If you need help understanding this information, please contact the Translating and Interpreting Service on **131 450** and ask them to call us on **1800 931 189**.